

REMARKS

The above amendments have been made in order to place the application in a preferred form prior to examination, as explained below.

In order to make necessary editorial corrections, the entire specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised. As the revisions are quite extensive, the amendments to the specification and abstract have been incorporated into the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added by the revisions. Entry of the substitute specification is thus respectfully requested.

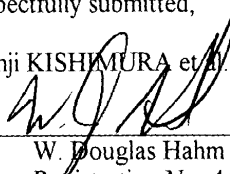
The original drawings have also been slightly amended in order to make minor formal corrections, and these changes have been incorporated into the new set of formal drawings submitted herewith. In particular, Figure 8 has been amended in order to change reference number "22" to reference number "24" in order to correct an editorial mistake and make Figure 8 consistent with the specification. In addition, new Figure 9 has been submitted in order to correct the orientation of the caption for the horizontal axis of the graph. No new matter has been added by any of these changes. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter and consider new formal Figures 8 and 9.

Original claims 1-6 and replaced with new claims 7-18, including new independent claims 7, 8, and 18. The new claims have been drafted so as to remove the multiple dependency of the original claims, thereby reducing the required filing fee, and also to make various formal changes to the original claims so as to place the claims in a preferred form. Accordingly, an examination on the merits of new claims 7-18 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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